DEC 1 8 2006

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

oplicant:

Baxter, et al.

Application No.: 10/810,762

Filed:

March 26, 2004

Title:

**HMB Compositions and Uses** 

Thereof

Docket No.: 7357US01

Art Unit:

1614

Examiner:

Graffeo, Michel

I certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown

below.

Date

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

## Dear Sir:

This is in response to the November 24, 2006 Office Action in the above-identified application, in which the claims were subjected to a restriction requirement under 35 USC 121 and subsequently categorized as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-8 and 21, drawn to a method for treating diseases, classified in

class 514, subclass 762.

Group II. Claims 9-20, drawn to a composition comprising HMB, classified in class

514, subclass 784.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect, without traverse, to prosecute claims 9-20 (Group II) in the present application.

An Election of Species has also been required, for the subject matter of Group II, to define a particular species of amino nitrogen source. Applicants hereby elect whey protein as the amino nitrogen source. Claims 9-20 read on whey protein formulations.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and allowance of all remaining claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Rv

William J. Winter Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 36,060

Abbott Laboratories Dept. 108140/DS1 625 Cleveland Avenue Columbus, OH 43215-1724 Phone (614) 624-5686 Fax (614) 624-3074